

Serial No.: 10/621,115

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Stephen G. Evangelides Jr. et al.  
SERIAL NO. : 10/621,115  
TITLE : Method And Apparatus For Performing System Monitoring In A Terminal Independent Interface Located Between A Terrestrial Optical Terminal And An Undersea Optical Transmission Path  
FILED : 07/16/2003  
EXAMINER : Shi K. Li  
GROUP ART : 2633  
CONFIRMATION NO.: 9086  
ATTY DOCKET: 9005/19

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Applicants hereby petition the Assistant Commissioner to grant a two (2) month extension of time for further response, up to and including June 27, 2006. A Notice of Appeal was filed on February 24, 2006, and received on February 27, 2006. The extension fee may be charged to deposit account No. 50-1047. In addition, any deficiencies may be charged to deposit account No. 50-1047.

In further response to the final Office Action mailed August 24, 2005, and prior to examination on the merits, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

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| <b><u>Certificate of Facsimile Transmission</u></b><br>I hereby certify that this correspondence and any document referenced herein is being sent to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via Facsimile to: 571-273-8300 on <u>June 27, 2006</u> |  |
| <hr/> Karin L. Williams<br>(Printed Name of Person Sending Correspondence)<br><br>(Signature)   |  |